

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: weinfurtner@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu (Greg Weinfurtner)
Subject: [3015] 30 mtr QRP/QSB
Message-ID: <v01510100ad24f1967931@[132.235.72.11]>

Gang,

Had a QSO with John, W9SJW (who lives in Freeport, Illinois) last night, about 0045 to 0115 UTC. I'm in Athens, Ohio...southeastern part of Ohio. He was running 100 watts from a Drake set-up and I was running 5 watts from my homebrew 30mtr xcvr. We both were using sloping dipoles, each headed in each others direction! I gave him a 599+ and he gave me a 589. With a 13 db difference in power levels, that was some pretty accurate reporting. (One S-unit = 6db) The fading (QSB) was really what was interesting...it was slow and steady, just like it was mechanically made! Anyone else experience it? The band seemed in pretty good condition from my QTH in Athens.

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*****
*                                     Greg Weinfurtner AEE BSS *
*      NN      N      SSSSSSS      8888888      0000000      Electronic Design Splst *
*      N N      N      S              8      8      0      0      Ohio University Athens *
*      N N      N      SSSSSSS      8888888      0      0      GO BOBCATS! *
*      N      N N              S      8      8      0      0 *
*      N      NN      SSSSSSS      8888888      0000000 *
*
*      Amateur Radio              Can thou send forth lightings *
*                                     that they may go and say unto *
*      weinfurtner@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu thee, 'Here we are'? Job 35:38 *
*****
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)
Subject: [3018] Antennas West
Message-ID: <199601191445.HAA03842@lynx.csn.net>

I have lost the E-mail address for Antennas West, Provo, UT. It is not on their ads but in their catalog/ham guide. Can someone help me?

72, Bob KI0G
QBF? ZUE

Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: "Lau, Zack, KH6CP" <zlau@arrl.org>
Subject: [3039] Anyone know the history of picking 7040?
Message-ID: <31000974@arrl.org>

Any of the QRP veterans know the history?

A 1973 RSGB book mentions something about an ITU conference and 7040 and 7020 being good TTY frequencies.

I don't find these political issues particularly productive, but since someone asked...

Zack KH6CP/1.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [3025] Backwards batteries
Message-ID: <960119103634_121308485@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Dear Stupid, oops, I mean Chuck :-)

Well, we who have already been there, done that too, salute you. Let's see now, on the original OHR, when I did it to that rig, I had to send it back to the "factory." Dick had to find my open output transformer coil, as I wouldn't have thought of that one. So, since you have an embarrassment of riches in PA transistors, while you are changing it, put the meter on all the coils at the PA end. With the transistor out of the socket, you will be best able to find a parted coil, of course.

You remind me too, of the time I did it in one of my MGB's. Now, the English, no offense, do some peculiar things when they build cars. In this particular MGB GT (the hatchback version) they use a piece of #2 RED wire between the negative battery and "earth" on the chassis. This may be a throwback to when MGs had positive ground--and they never changed the spec on the short battery to chassis connecting wire. Anyway, being a trained ham, I looked at RED (thought "Red=Positive") , did very little thinking actually (it was below zero, as I recall, as if that is a good excuse) and connected

up the jumper wires to my big Olds. Smoke is the inevitable, telltale sign of these little foul-ups, inside the shack or out. Unfortunately for me I burned off all the insulation on the main positive wire and that car was too rusty to safely jack up at home to rewire the underneath part (oh, did I mention that the battery is behind the back seat and the positive side has to be connected by a long run of #2 wire under the car to the starter/engine?)

So I had to pay my friendly professional mechanic to do this on his lift.

Let's see now, jacking, rewiring, new alternator, various smaller arterial wires, let's just say it was a very expensive lesson. Moral, every damn time you hook up a battery, think thrice. Make sure. Use color codes (except even that isn't enough in English cars.). Use polarized connectors. See, I knew this would have some QRP content.

72, signed, Stupider a/k/a Preston WJ2V

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [3046] Circuit wanted
Message-ID: <9601192334.AA07578@voder.nsc.com>

I have been trying and failing to come up with a circuit to use as a switch.

Here is what I want it to do:

Detect an audio signal from the audio output jack of an HT (QRP FM transceiver ;^}).

For test purposes, I've been using an LED to display when circuit is in detect mode.

After the audio signal is gone, delay for a second or three then turn the LED off.

As long as there is audio, the LED should be on steady.

All I need is a reference for this circuit. I can bread board well enough I just can't design the thing.

Is this the same as VOX?

=====

7.3 de Michael AA0UB miker@cc.com michael@frii.com
 http://www.frii.com/~michael
 QRP-L #126 Norcal #857 CQC #180

=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3032] DATA: Current solar activity
Message-ID: <199601191759.KAA09847@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

SOLAR/HF PROPAGATION DATA

1996	General	Sunspot	10.7cm	Index	MUF from	
Jan.	Condition	Number	Flux	K	A	normal

11	Very low	13	75	2	7	-30%
12	"	4	70	2	10	norm
13	Minor storm	3	69	3	28	+30%
14	"	5	70	4	24	-20%
15	"	5	70	5	17	-30%
16	Unsettled	5	70	2	8	-15% with sporadic E
17	"	7	70	3	12	-20%
18	"	6	71	2	10	+20%

PREDICTIONS:

19	Very low	6	72	10	Normal MUF's with strong sporadic E activity and degraded HF propagation
20	Minor storm	8	72	20	
21	Minor storm	8	72	10	

19-21 JAN: Quiet with brief periods of minor storming, producing
 degraded HF propagation.

28JAN-7FEB: Expected to be quiet, settled conditions

9-10 FEB: Minor storm period possible

Above information "averaged" from info from Australia, Boulder and
Sacramento Peak Solar Observatories.

For those without the fancy fangled web stuff, a good ftp site is:
ftp ftp.ips.gov.au The Australian IPS Regional Warning Centre
cd (change directory) to: /users/rwc/reports
They update this ftp site religiously. (Good job in VK land).

Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com
Subject: [3030] DEBCO ELECTRONICS
Message-ID: <M636793.003.fvjd1.1.960119173538Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBB/
PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

Following a posting describing a visit to DEBCO in Ohio(?), I called to ask for their catalog. Found out they publish it on the Internet also at <http://debco.com>.

Don't have access to the WEB yet, but wonder if accessing it that way might not be more up-to-date, as paper catalogs are only updated infrequently.

BobT N6WG QRP-L #27

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Kirkekirk@aol.com
Subject: [3050] FS HW-9
Message-ID: <960119214126_201618623@mail02.mail.aol.com>

Inasmuch as I have had a great deal of interest in selling the HM-9, HFT-9, and SP-99 separately, I will consider selling the HW-9 alone for \$250. It has the WARC bands and no mods. It works great and looks great. Will sell all for \$325.

reply to AA4YZ@AOL.COM

72
Kirk
AA4YZ
Canton, Oh

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: vhatley@usa.pipeline.com (Vernon Hatley)
Subject: [3021] Gel cells

After reading Chuck's comments on the gel cells; I thought I would share with the group a possible outlet for cheap batteries. I'm not sure if everyone is aware or not but commercial burglar alarms and those emergency lights you see in stores; most use gel cells for backup power. Around here we have a friend who is a maintainece man at a university located in our town; they are required to change the gel cells out with new ones every 4 - 6 months; no matter if they are still good or not. Most stores and businesses do likewise. Those batteries that they remove are just

discarded. Most of the time the batteries are just fine; So the point I am making is this; ask around, if you have friends in the building maintenance department, see if they can get you the cells for free or offer to buy the "used" batteries from an alarm company. Most of the ones we have gotten were the 7 amp/hr size. Plenty to drive a 2-5 watt rig for a weekend of fun.

--

KK5RO

Vernon A. Hatley

QRP-L #325

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>
Subject: [3040] Handbook CW Interface
Message-ID: <199601192119.PAA16123@alice.adsnet.com>

Has anyone here on the reflector built the CW interface designed by Ralph Taggart WB8DQT that was originally featured in the January 1995 issue of QST? I believe it also appears in the new ARRL handbook.

I ordered a board from FAR circuits and and built it into one of the nice two tone Ten Tec cabinets. The interface appears to be working but I can't seem to get it to talk to the computer as I'm not able to decode anything. I downloaded two different versions of software from the ARRL BBS, MORSE.EXE and MORSE3.EXE and haven't had any luck with either one.

I sent a letter and SASE to the author back in July with no reply so at this point I guess I need to look elsewhere for help.

72/3 de Allen, K9DZE

=====

Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@adsnet.com

Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq

ARCI G-QRP NorCal QRP-L #112

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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Frank G3YCC <frank@yorks.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [3011] Help!
Message-ID: <DZVFvEA+ep\$wEwRn@yorks.demon.co.uk>

Hi, This is a bit naughty as the topic is not really QRP, but I am using a low power telephone ...

I am trying to find the packet address of Howard, KE5YP in Henryetta, Okmulgee. Can any kind soul in USA assist.

Sorry for the bandwidth!

Just to justify this message my one QRP QSO today on 14060 was with GQRPer 9H1AQ in Malta. I feel better now ...

73

--

Frank G3YCC G QRP CLUB 042 RSGB ARCI
Packet G3YCC @ GB7HUL.#15.GBR.EU

Nostalgia ain't what it used to be!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: W3HMS@aol.com
Subject: [3049] History of Vibroplex
Message-ID: <960119211439_121792534@emout04.mail.aol.com>

To all.....just a follow on to the msg 17 Jan 96 by Stuart, K5KVH. I found no address for Vibroplex in current QSTs and old info about Maine location is past history. The company is now in Mobile, Ala at 1-800-840-8873 and the 100th anniv. book is \$20.00.

I'm selling nothing....just wanted to share the correct dataIF you need it.

73, John

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [3009] I can't help myself..
Message-ID: <9601191309.AA21022@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

AS Chuck, k5fo stated in a very recent posting..

So, here is the over picture as I see it.

1. We are all hams or wanna be's. We need both.
2. We have some that operate only commercial gear.
3. We have some that only operate kits.
4. We have some that only operate homebrew.
5. We have some that only think about QRP.
6. We have some that only experiment and never get on the air.
7. We have some that experiment, design, and go into business.
8. We have some that get on the air and some that never get on the air.
9. We have some that contribute.
10. We have some that consume.
11. We have everybody. Hell, with 900+ subscribers we have a cross-section of the human race.

read #3 & #4..

Glad to see that Chuck supports my philosophy on kits/homebrew :-)..

73 es have a good weekend.
Brad, WB8YGG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3031] INFO: Solar Activity
Message-ID: <199601191757.KAA09813@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Brief Solar/geomagnetic propagation description.

HF propagation is best during an active sun - low to disrupted during a quiet sun. If plotted, solar activity forms a sine wave with a period of 7-11 years. We are currently at the very bottom of the solar cycle.

The most rudimentary method of measuring solar activity is the sun spot count. An active sun produces 100-200 (or more) sun spots a day, while a very quiet sun is 10-20. Sun spot records have been kept for centuries.

More modern methods include measuring the radio output of the sun at different frequencies, 10.7cm the most common. The higher the sun spot number, the higher the solar flux numbers. The 10cm solar flux is measured by numerous agencies around the world on a daily (and hourly) basis. The rate at which our ionosphere is ionized (charged with free electrons) is a function of solar flux output. The more ionized the "E" and "F" layers are, the more reflective they are to HF signals and will reflect higher frequencies (the MUF or maximum usable frequency reflected). A high solar flux means good reflectivity and a high MUF. Low solar flux means poor reflectivity and a low MUF (sometimes MUF <10MHz). Note that signals not REFLECTED by the ionosphere are being ABSORBED or lost to space.

The amount of solar flux tends to alter the Earth's geomagnetic field. Therefore, another means to measure solar flux is to measure changes in our geomagnetic field. There are observatories worldwide making these measurements daily and hourly as well. Instantaneous measurements are called the "K Index," and specific to the location of measurement. They are averaged over 24-hours for a global mean index, called the "A index." A low A index (<7) indicates a very quiet sun, while larger numbers means a progressively larger amount of solar activity. A>30 is considered a minor geomagnetic storm. The lower the A-index, the better the ionospheric reflection (low absorption) and higher A-indices means higher absorptions.

Therefore, the dominant means in measuring solar activity as a measure of how our ionosphere is affecting HF communications is: 1) sunspot numbers; 2) 10.7cm solar radio flux; 3) geomagnetic condition (K and A indexes); and 4) the actual measure of the maximum usable frequency (MUF) reflected. All of the above measurements are performed daily around the world and issue "daily mean values" and "predicted values."

GENERAL MEASUREMENT GUIDELINES:

----- DAILY GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY -----

K-Index	A-Index	MUF	SOLAR ACTIVITY
0-1	0- 7	High MUF	Quiet Sun
2	8-15		Unsettled Sun
3	16-29		Active Sun
4	30-49	Low MUF	Minor Storm
5	50-99	Very Low	Major Storm
6-9	>100	Black-out	Severe Storm

0-1	0- 7	High MUF	Quiet Sun	Guidelines are approximate; Global warning centers declare and issue storm states based on numerous factors. A minor storm with A<30 but with high solar flux can be declared, for example.
2	8-15		Unsettled Sun	
3	16-29		Active Sun	
4	30-49	Low MUF	Minor Storm	
5	50-99	Very Low	Major Storm	
6-9	>100	Black-out	Severe Storm	

----- 11-YR SOLAR CYCLE ACTIVITY -----

Sunspots	10.7cm Flux	SOLAR ACTIVITY
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WWV broadcasts the geomagnetic K and A Indexes and 10.7cm

-----			flux at H+18 minutes (WWVH at
<10	<50	Very quiet sun	H+45 minutes) and any storm
10-20	70	Quiet sun	conditions in effect.
21-50	> 80	Moderately active	
>50	>100	Active sun	The K measurement is a 4-digit
>100	>150	Very active sun	number; the index a single digit
>180	>220	Extremely active	K=3342 is a K-index=3
-----			Both methods are used.

Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
 From: V\$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com
 Subject: [3042] QRP ARCI membership question
 Message-ID: <01I076MAXROI000VT8@hub.qgraph.com>

It's been about 15 years since I got my QRP ARCI member number #4641. But it been about 10 since i've subscribed to QRP quarterly. My understanding was that once you got a number you were a member for life. Is that still true?

I want to re subscribe to QQ now that I have time to read it. Can some post the subscription info. I still have my old membership certificate signed by red reynolds.

Brian AE9K

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
 From: CamQRP@aol.com
 Subject: [3001] QRP ARCI Novice/Tech Roundup
 Message-ID: <960118235735_120971338@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Group -

I was just catching up with my unread qrp-1 digests and came upon references to the Novice Roundup. As was noted there, we are sponsoring a NR Clone this year, as are the FISTS. Now that the two clubs are aware of each others' efforts, we are discussing getting together to sponsor a joint Roundup in '97 and thereafter. But for now, you will just have to struggle along with two of them.

The QRP ARCI contest will run from January 27 through February 4th. Since we don't have the luxury of full-page announcements in QST, as did the ARRL, there will probably not be too many Novice/Tech types participating at first. I think that just by being there we will generate interest and stir up some

activity.

The rules were published in the January issues of the QRP Quarterly, CQ, QST (correctly) and Worldradio (not as correctly). I sent the same e-mail to all of them, but Worldradio and the NCJ (!) got the dates wrong. Go figure. If any of the Novice/Techs ask about rules, please refer them to CQ or QST.

This should be a good chance to help interest some newer hams in contesting, and not coincidentally, in QRP.

Thanks for your continued support,

Cam N6GA

QRP ARCI Novice/Tech Roundup, CW, sponsored by QRP ARC International. 0000 UTC Saturday, January 27, 1996, to 2400 UTC Sunday, February 4. Operate a maximum of 30 hours during the contest period. Novice/Tech segments of 80, 40, 15 and 10 meter bands. Exchange: Signal report, ARRL/RAC Section, Name. Novices sign /N, Techs sign /T after their call for class identification. QSO Points: Novice/Tech to Novice/Tech QSOs - 1 point; Novice/Tech to all other classes QSOs - 2 points; All others to all others - 1 point. Power Multiplier: Under 1 watt output = X3; From 1 watt to 5 watts output = X 2; Over 5 watts output = X 1. Scoring: QSO Point total X Section Multiplier total X Power Multiplier. Work stations once per band. Section multipliers count only once, regardless of band.

Entries must be postmarked within 30 days of the end of the contest. Logs must contain all QSO data, including date, time in UTC, band and exchange information. Multipliers should be marked clearly in the log the first time they are worked. Certificates to every Novice and Technician entry, and to the top score in each section. Send an SASE for sample log sheet and entry form, and send entry to Cam Hartford, N6GA, QRP ARCI Contest Manager, 1959 Bridgeport Ave., Claremont CA 91711.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: AC6JA@aol.com
Subject: [3045] QRP PLUS FOR SALE
Message-ID: <960119182642_201446564@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Hello there. Name is Mike and I'm located in Foster City, CA. I have for sale an absolutely mint Index Laboratories QRP PLUS. 160 thru 10m, full coverage receiver, built-in keyer, variable filters from 2.4khz down to

100hz, SSB, CW, only a few months old, never been in the field, just been sitting here on the desk! Have original box, manual, power cord, and packaging!

Asking \$525.00, shipping included in the 48 states!

You can reach me landline at (415) 573-7720, packet at AC6JA @ KA6EYH, or E-mail at AC6JA @ AOL.COM.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Roger L Traylor <Roger_L_Traylor@ccm.jf.intel.com>
Subject: [3048] QRP Quarterly - is mine late?

Gang,

I don't yet have my Jan 96 QRP Quarterly. Is it late or am I just impatient? If you don't have yours, could you drop me a line directly? I renewed late and perhaps I've been lost in the shuffle.

Thanks,

Roger Traylor WB4TPW

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [3038] radios
Message-ID: <250316C3D@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Have been reading about the group.purchase. But, since I am just starting my Explorer II for 30 from the last group purchase, I will pass.

Dick---if you are reading this, I am really enjoying the kit. In fact, I think I am enjoying it more than the 20 meter Explorer I.

For those who really get into doing a kit, I must confess I have it here in the office on a table behind my desk. When I get my fill of "playing professor", I close the door and heat up the iron. The kit helps me keep my sanity. From start to finish, I am lucky to get 1/2 hour at a time on the kit. But it is a very enjoyable half hour.

When I finish this, I am thinking of doing an Explorer II for 40 meters. Does someone have the Radio Devices address, phone number, Email address or whatever????

Thanks all.

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.
Department of Biology
Indiana University Northwest
Gary, IN 46408

(219)980-6718
FAX: (219)980-7125
(219)980-6866

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: [3043] Re[2]: current trends
Message-ID: <9600198220.AA822092795@mail.creo.bc.ca>

I've been following this thread with great interest - while my interest in RF and electronics goes back a long way, it was only in 1993 that I passed my Basic and became VE7LDH. In the meantime I have upgraded, and now hold all the qualifications a Canadian ham can hold (Advanced + 12 WPM).

My first draft of this message was a lot longer than this version, but I was able to edit it down to:

Each of us must find our own interests, whether it's operating modes, operating frequencies, or technical knowledge/expertise. Ham radio is uniquely suited to this, being, inherently, a hobby of infinite diversity. Let's cut the Us-vs-Them crap. Ham radio can accomodate differing interests. Internecine bickering will destroy ham radio...

Lead by example, and take delight in fascinating, myriad difference. Do what you must, and harm no one.

Laura Halliday VE7LDH
lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
ve7ldh@amsat.org
Locator: CN89mg

"C'est une femme mutine, assez
elegante, grave et legere, ayant le
sens du confort et du plaisir
en tout." - C. Deneuve

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Subject: [3035] RTTY and Sending
Message-ID: <199601191913.TAA17272@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Hmmmm. How do you guys think I send morse at speeds greater than 30wpm? I can assure you that it is not with the fabulous Vibroplex Brass Racer Serial #1!!!

I haven't talked to WA5YFY or N9VV is such a long time I don't have the keyboard even on the desk. :-)

Today is a good day. Think I'll see if I can work on something tonight.

Thanks to Paul and the others for the postings on the A and K indices. Now everyone remember this stuff 'cuz in 27 days you will see it again. Plan your contests accordingly.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)
Subject: [3029] solar forecast
Message-ID: <v02130500ad25761e2867@[192.91.202.41]>

Here is the weekly propagation forecast from the canadians.....

WEEKLY STFR FORECAST VALID: 19 January to 28 January 1996

		10.7 cm HF Propagation	+/- CON	Mag	Aurora
		SolrFlx	LO MI HI PO SWF %MUF	% K Ap	LO MI HI
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Jan 19	072	G G F F	01 00 70 3 12	NV NV LO	
20	072	G G P P	01 -15 65 5 24	NV LO MO	
21	073	G G P P	01 -10 70 3 17	NV LO MO	
22	074	G G F F	01 -05 70 3 14	NV NV LO	
23	074	G G F F	01 00 70 2 10	NV NV LO	
24	075	G G F F	02 00 70 2 05	NV NV LO	
25	075	G G F F	02 00 70 2 05	NV NV LO	
26	076	G G F F	02 00 70 2 05	NV NV LO	
27	076	G G F F	02 00 70 2 05	NV NV LO	
28	078	G G F F	02 00 70 2 05	NV NV LO	

Report Released by the Solar Terrestrial Dispatch

P.O. Box 357, Stirling, Alberta, Canada, T0K 2E0
Accessible BBS System: (403) 756-3008

INTERNET FTP: solar.uleth.ca (in pub/solar)
INTERNET FINGER: finger solar@solar.uleth.ca
INTERNET WWW: <http://solar.uleth.ca/solar>

Near-Real-Time Propagation Maps: <http://solar.uleth.ca/solar>

I haven't been able to get the decoder ring, but I think the columns for low, mid and hi refer to latitude of the path (and polar). The forecast for K and Ap make me think a solar storm is forecast for this weekend.

(note..I am not a forecaster, or even a knowledgeable user of this stuff....)
72, AB70A

Kent Torell torell@sicom.com 602-483-2867
SICOM 7585 E. Redfield, #202 Scottsdale, AZ 85260

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3003] Stupid Alert
Message-ID: <199601190627.GAA15662@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Ever have one of those days? I mean, like you try to do something and you wind up just about destroying everything?

Let me explain. Last night I took some DC power cords off of some other gel-cells and soldered some flat connectors to match the terminals of the gel-cells. I thought I had been very careful. Should have double checked before applying power. You can see it coming, can't you? Been there done that.

So tonight I'm getting home at the same time the sun and the temperature is going down. See where Chicago had a high of 58 and we didn't get above 32. Go figure. Crazy sunspots and all. :-)

I look at the GC-1000 and there is no sync, thus propagation must be down the tubes. Turn on the Explorer II on 30M and nada, zilch, no signals anywhere. I go into the other room and start to do the measurements on the gel-cell. I have on the desk a SWL-30 and the GM-30. So I put the

GM-30 on the 1.3Ahr battery and fire it up. No problem. Now I go and put the SWL-30 on a 7Ahr battery and this is where the fun begins. I turn around to get another pair of headphones and I smell it. That wonderful aroma of something made of silicon/plastic and other exotic stuff having significant amounts of heat applied and I see the smoke coming out of the edge of the case. Holy cow batman!! (I think that's what I said, Phyllis didn't say anything about my language. :-)) I quickly yank the power cord off and then remove the cover to see how much damage is done. I can't see any physical damage, but I figure some electrolytic caps, PA, and maybe one NE602. Those more experienced in destructive testing can tell me how much I did. :-)
I'm very thankful that I didn't do this to the GM-30.

Now, not one to give up I still continue on with the plan. I setup both the Explorer II, which is on the outside antenna, and the GM-30 which is on a dummy load to listen to each and other and play like Guardian/Colossus computer connection in the "Forbin Project" movie. I get 'em both on 10.114 or so and everything is going well.

About 0158Z I have the Explorer II on the air and sending CQ. I had just gone up and down the band looking at conditions and I don't hear a thing so I'm figuring no way anyone is gonna be hearing a 0.95W signal. I am about to go into the other room to see how the GM-30 is tracking and I hear this weak signal coming outta the earphones. A real short call to me? I send a QRZ? Just to make sure that my imagination isn't playing tricks on me. Sure enough it's Paul Goemans, WA9PWP, one of the leaders in the fox hunt. Here is a guy that must have one heck of an antenna system. He is so weak that I can get about every other character as he is just at the noise floor. We exchange 339's and sign. Thanks Paul. Made my day. 816 miles. Not bad for a dead band. He gets a brand new 2SC799 for the effort. Good thing I have a lifetime supply as I had just fried one. :-)
That's not the one I'm sending him.

OK, back to the study at hand. I go and get the GM-30 sending at 20wpm CQ CQ CQ DE K5FO K5FO K5FO/QRP K with 10 second pause and then repeat with all this into a dummy load. I leave it for one hour and then measure again. Here is what I get:

Start 12.75V on 1.3Ahr cell with 40.1mA on receive and 302mA on transmit
(I'll come back later this weekend and measure power out for the transmitter)

One hour 12.62V still under load with transmitter off, i.e. receive only.

So far so good. Next series of test to extend this time and to do this until the cell voltage gets to 11V and then stop. It seems to me that 1.3Ahr cell isn't too shabby.

I want to thank Preston, WV2J, for pointing out that these cells may not be what one would want and to make sure you check for chirp, drift, and other side effects with whatever rig you use. I'm going to crank the output on the GM-30 to the max and try this over the weekend. This small cell may only be good for QRPp work or for short periods of operating times. It certainly seems pretty good right now and it sure will be the right size for backpacking or travel.

But I'm not through. I had been using the multimeter to measure current so I get the leads to measure the voltage and put them across the cell. I think about what I'm doing a few milliseconds after touching the leads to the terminals. I got lucky. Nothing broke or shorted or anything else, but I still think that this is not my day. I take meter over to couch to check it out. You do not want a meter that is in the current measuring mode to be placed across a voltage source. Since the meter is effectively a dead short, i.e. $R=0$ ohms. Phyllis is laughing at me as I am carrying on about a "Stupid Alert" - Warning: Danger Will Robinson!!. I take back cover off battery compartment and start checking the fuse in the current line. It has a red ribbon pull tab and I am using the test lead to pull it out. It pops out and goes flying behind the couch. I'm carrying on and Phyllis is about to go rolling into the floor laughing so hard. After checking and finding that I didn't destroy the fuse I put it all back together, go around the house turning off all electronic devices and terminate all activity that might result in the loss of any QRP related equipment or rigs. I know when it's time to quit. Well, then again maybe I don't. I should have probably stopped earlier. :-)

Doing this stuff is fun, but some times it gets to be too much to handle. :-). So until I get some rest I'm not going to be taking covers off of rigs and poking around. The DFW rule is in effect. Chuck Adams Don't Fool With It (DFW) Rule. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Murphy is laughing at me right now. Go ahead - make my day.

So what have we learned? I'm going to put fuse holders in all power supplies and cells to hold 1/2 amp 2cm fuses. I saw a real neat fuse system at Livermore swap fest. It holds a regular auto fuse, the flat kind like Chrysler uses. Don't know the part number for the fuse. The plastic cover is a little large but you can get fuses relatively cheap and any rating just about.

I'll be the first to get in line and recommend all manufacturers put a fuse system into the rigs. NN1G uses a series diode to prevent reverse polarity problems. Dick uses diode across power plug but this assumes that I am smart enough to have a fuse. I will from now on. I told you earlier today that education is expensive no

matter how you get it. I got mine.

dit dit :-)

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@bcfreenet.seflin.lib.fl.us>
Subject: [3012] Subscription Information
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9601190836.H13329-0100000@bcfreenet.seflin.lib.fl.us>

I just changed my Internet address to n4bp@bcfreenet.seflin.lib.fl.us and didn't keep a record of how to subscribe to this reflector. Can someone please fill me in?

73, BP

Bob Patten
n4bp@bcfreenet.seflin.lib.fl.us

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Scott Cranston <cranston@zk3.dec.com>
Subject: [3007] Tejas Kits sale
Message-ID: <9601191225.AA06136@falpa.zk3.dec.com>

Chuck was asking what Tejas Kits has available these days. An extract from the back cover page of the 'Winter 96' issue of Hambrew has this:

Tejas Kit Winter Sale:

- Backpacker II Reg: \$159.95 Sale: \$129.95
- Deluxe 8044ABM Mini-Keyer no enclosure Reg: \$39.95 Sale: \$29.95
with enclosure Reg: \$59.95 Sale: \$44.95
- Variable Peaking Bandpass CW Filter Kit Reg: \$49.95 Sale: \$39.95
- Mini Signal Strength Meter Assembled Reg: \$29.95 Sale: \$19.95
- Mini Meter Kit Sale: \$14.95
- Remote In-Line RF Sensor Assembled Reg: \$29.95 Sale: \$19.95

"All items limited quantities - subject to prior sale - no rain checks - all sales final."

"All prices plus shipping and handling."

"Please make all check payable to Bill Kickox."

Send SASE for full Winter sale flyer:

Bill Kickox, KB5BDZ
Tejas Kits
9215 Rowan Lane
Houston, Tx 77036

And... Hambrew is a cool little magazine... \$10 per year, 303-989-5642, or hambrew@qadas.com or <http://www.qadas.com/hambrew> or P.O. Box 260083, Lakewood, CO 80226-0083.

I have no association with Bill Kickox or Tejas Kits or Hambrew or George Grazio, etc, etc, just passing on information.

Scott,
KB1NW

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: ljones@why.net (ljones)
Subject: [3004] Ten Tec @ 6 Meters
Message-ID: <19960119074437956.AAC123@dal44.why.net>

Greetings Gang...

Guess what. I was devouring the latest issue of QST and found the Ten Tec Kits ad. I was thinking of getting their 6M to 15M transverter when lo and behold I noticed that they will be coming out in February with a 6M to 2M transverter for the same price. Now I am already into 2M SSB/CW and this will be great for me. I can now get into 6M somewhat cheaply. So I will be counting my pennies, nickles, dimes and quarters until Dayton. Boy I can hardly wait for May!!! Does anyone out there have any info for a 10 to 50 watt linear for 6M?

72/73

dee-it dee-it

Larry Jones N50SG <><	NorTex	QRP-ARCI	G-QRP	MI-QRP
4028 Random Circle	NorCal	NE-QRP	QRP-L	NTMS
Garland Tx 75043-3250				

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Duane Anderson <kj7ho@utah-inter.net>
Subject: [2999] Unusual callsigns
Message-ID: <30FF1680.1B76@utah-inter.net>

In my area there is the call of a nice lady, KB7XTC. She takes some ribbing.

72/73,
de Duane, KJ7HO (then there is always mine...ho ho ho)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Harry_Chase@smtpgwy.windata.com (Harry Chase)
Subject: [3037] VHF crystal oscillator design : books etc.
Message-ID: <9600198220.AA822090306@smtpgwy.windata.com>

Try Marvin Frerking's CRYSTAL OSCILLATOR DESIGN AND TEMPERATURE COMPENSATION , published by Van Nostrand-Reinhold Co, 1978.

-This book is, IMHO, an excellent reference for the theory and practical how-to-build-it aspects of crystal oscillators from VLF up to hundreds of MHz. He doesnt overload you with mathematics, but explains the theory of operation; and the practical part of the book is one of the best I've seen for showing you how to build the things and make them work. Many are the ham projects of mine that had reference oscillators designed from this book.

Harry
WA1VVH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: CamQRP@aol.com
Subject: [3002] Winter Fireside SSB Sprint

Message-ID: <960118235730_120971254@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Gang -

Warm up the modulators for this weekend's foray into contest land. January 21 is the date. We've kept the work-4-hours-of-8 format because it gives equal opportunity to those who like 75 Phone as well as the higher freqs.

Hope to hear your voices.

72/73, Cam N6GA

QRP ARCI WINTER FIRESIDE SSB SPRINT

Sponsored by QRP ARC International. 12 Noon to 8 PM, Local Time, January 21, 1996. Operate any 4 hours of the 8 hour period. Entries may be Single Band, All Band, High Band (20, 15, 10 or 6) or Low Band (160, 80 and 40). Work stations once per band. Exchange signal report, state/province/ country, and QRP ARCI number if member, or power output if non-member. 1.860 3.865 7.285 14.285 21.385 28.385 50.130. QSO points: 5 points / QSO with ARCI member, 2 points for non-members same continent, 4 points for non-members different continent. Bonus points awarded for using homebrew equipment, apply for each band on which homebrew equipment was used: +2000 points for HB transmitter; +3000 points for HB receiver; +5000 for HB transceiver. A piece of equipment is considered to be homebrew if you built it. Final score is total of QSO points (all bands) multiplied by total of states/provinces/countries (all bands) times power multiplier (Power is stated as SSB PEP output: > 10 W output, X1; <10 W output, X 7; <2 W output, X 10; < 500 MW output, X 15), plus bonus points. Include description of equipment and antennas used. Mail entries by February 19, 1996 to QRP ARCI Contest Mgr, Cam Hartford, N6GA, 1959 Bridgeport Ave., Claremont CA 91711, or by e-mail to CamQRP@aol.com.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996

From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU

Subject: [3008] Re: current trends

Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.960119072724.543214427C-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

Chuck and all,

I concur on all aspects of welcoming all hams from N/T to E without distinction in all activities in which they wish to participate. I also concur in finding it the responsibility of everyone who knows even a little more to assist those who know even a little less--and that is QRP-L perhaps more than anything else on Internet.

I wish that every ham could read the HB (ARRL, RSGB, etc.) effectively. Unfortunately, it is not written as a teaching text, but as a reference volume and requires a certain base level of knowledge and experience to use effectively. It's size is overwhelming, especially to those who are not by nature "readers" but who absorb information by a little reading combined with other inputs.

A few years ago, I suggested to the League the development of a series of texts divided into subject areas within amateur radio, to be written from a teaching perspective and suitable for both home study and for local class use. Although they published a version of the plan in their annual National Teaching Workshop Proceedings, discussions of the idea on subsequent occasions with League staff have produced no action. They do have to worry about cost of production vs. income relative to all their books, along with the potential for hitting production snags if authors do not do their job on time. (Example: the 96 HB is better than the 95, even though the 95 was a complete rewrite. Deadlines prevented the absolute perfection of parts of the HB, which will undergo continuous perfection with time. Treat "perfection" as the goal, even if one never quite hits it.)

The need for good teaching materials is still there, along with the need for qualified (or qualifiable) volunteers to organize and teach (and render all sorts of random assistance that getting together permits). Teaching begins with an attitude of "Yes, you can!" The W/K ARC group makes no "concerted effort" to encourage upgrading, but I'll bet it exudes the "Yes, you can!" attitude, along with the pride of accomplishment.

I won't detail my suggestions for organized teaching materials here (too long already), but it is a task I wish some group could undertake (underwrite) in some variation or other. Then figure out how to invite others to learn more while showing them the pleasures of having learned more. I try to learn a little more each day for no big-deal reasons: it just feels good to learn something. And it feels better to have an opportunity to pass it on to someone else.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: cooper@gmpvt.com (Tom Cooper)
Subject: [3014] Re:current trends
Message-ID: <199601191358.IAA25866@web.gmpvt.com>

There are people, including me, who at least open any piece of

radio equipment before trying it out. QST used to show the insides of radios, not the front panel, in the product reviews.

And, we used to only talk about our stations and the weather. Without "appliance operators" who are more interested in communicating than tinkering we wouldn't have anything to complain about except sunspots and the Congress.

A lot of things may have changed but I think that there is room for everyone in ham radio, as long as we are all not trying to use 7040 at once!

73,

Tom WA1GUV
cooper@gmpvt.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3023] Re: current trends
Message-ID: <199601191527.PAA16315@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

LB et.al.,

Thanks LB for the note. It is both informative and opens up some possibilities. As one of the authors of the 1995 HB I can tell you that the deadline and amount of work was intense. You're right, perfection is a goal and a high one at that.

My posting on reading the HB and Operating Guide probably implied that everyone should read them from cover to cover. Sorry. I haven't done that and I don't intend to. It is a valuable reference and I use it almost daily and surely weekly to look something up. But for the newest members of the ham community and I'm always thinking of teenagers about \$70 in books right outta the starting gate might just be too much for a lot of folks, but hopefully there are thoughtful guys/girls in every community that are making sure the library has at least one copy. Heck, donate your old copies of technical material. I know that some libraries will sell the material to generate revenue, but hopefully that will give the material a LiBofCong number and put it out for all to use. Make it a club project to do this.

LB is a noted author. I have seen him in a new ARRL book on antennas.

I vote that you give us your ideas on teaching materials. This group

seems to be interested in furthering their knowledge and the knowledge of others.

Humbly submitted.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Harry_Chase@smtpgwy.windata.com (Harry Chase)
Subject: [3041] Re: current trends
Message-ID: <9600198220.AA822095166@smtpgwy.windata.com>

There is one higher level of difficulty than winning a big contest; and that is *having a good long ragchew with a station while a contest is going on*... Now THAT takes as much aluminum and steel -and then some -as the biggest contest station ever assembled, especially if its on SSB!!! It usually takes a couple of 8877's as well (or a 4xMRF157 amplifier:-) Otherwise, its a bit like trying to place first in the CQWW, running QRPP!!

Harry
WA1VVH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: V\$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com
Subject: Re: current trends

The w/k club is an interesting group, one I've never run across before. We have members who have been hams for 50 or 60 years to kid just getting started. The club only has a couple of dozen members and the club charter is to operate FD and the Wis QSO party. WE're small enough to meet in members homes on a monthly basis so there is always a different shack configuration to see, some simple some elaborate. We get together monthly, have a few soda and partake of the snack buffet the host set out, A meeting typically consists of a treasures report (bolstered primarily from aluminum cans and newspaper) that ususally hovers around \$100. We talk about upcoming contests, Major events of members during the past month, rare dx qso's, awards, purchases. and so on. The official meeting lasts about an hour.

Occasionally some one will introduce some new equipment or a mode he's been playing with that strikes a cord in the members. When we got the first DSP

filter in the club and it was demonstrated, everyone jumped on the bandwagon.

When I gave a talk on QRP and demonstrated my arognaut many years back Several members became enthusiasts.

When a member upgrades its a big deal..Many pats on the back from the senior and sometimes not so senior members are received. When a member see's whats in the other shacks he borrows ideas for his own. When a beginner see one of our veteran DX'ers work something rare right at the meeting, sometimes on his own rig he gets pumped up knowing he has the equipemnt to do it he just needs the skills.

In a nutshell, Its a lot of fun for everyone. Oh, yes at the May meeting we actually talk about FD. But since we've been doing it fo 20 years with a lot of the same guys...Theres not a lot to discuss. The W/K has place 1st in Wis in the 2A class for as long as I can remember.

Well enough for now..

72,
Brian AE9K

OOPS meant to send this to the group too...could you forward it for me..
my mailer is really limited.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: cebik@UTKVVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [3051] Re: current trends (fwd)
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.960119214131.543243851A-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

Brian asked me to forward this to the list, which I am very glad to do.
His group has adopted one of many possible good club styles: it works
very well for them--a style not so much to be copied as absorbed in spirit.
-73-

LB, W4RNL

----- Forwarded message -----

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: mjsilva@ix.netcom.com (michael silva)
Subject: [3047] Re: DEBCO ELECTRONICS
Message-ID: <199601192334.PAA00279@ix11.ix.netcom.com>

I've always kind of wondered why Debco never showed up on "where to buy parts" lists. I got some parts from them last year, including some MPS-U02 transistors (the audio devices that DeMaw likes to use for RF).

Everything arrived as ordered, except the transistors were house-marked. Another phone call confirmed that they were the correct part. Glad they've been "discovered" on the list.

73,
Mike, KK6GM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [3036] Re: Gel cells
Message-ID: <960119144400_121474034@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Vernon pointed out some good outlets for used cells. One more I found is Bio-Medical equipment. It pays to have friends who work in that field. Most of these can be found at hospitals. Also, the charging circuits found in the emergency lighting systems should be nice to tear out and mount in a smaller box. They are designed to "float" charge the batteries, and have a change over circuit when the AC lines fail. I'm working on one now. A chap gave it to me. All he wanted was the lamps!

72 de cameron, kt3a <><QRP-L 7

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [3044] RE: Gel cells
Message-ID: <n1390050952.32834@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Hello all,
Another medical field source on Gel Cells is Ambulance crews portable suction or other battery powered equipment. These suction machines often have two Gels in series and one will fail before the other, but they are replaced as a set. Check the EMT's at your local Fire Dept. or Ambulance co. Another might be your cable company installer, or telephone installer, or even the Radio TV shop man, or the Satellite dish installer. How about the battery sets for portable tools, like from a rental company? I would bet if they are smart, they replace those packs on a regular basis, or if a series set of Gels, they replace both when one goes. Check around. Some of you heard about my 10M bicycle QRP rig of the late 50's powered by cast off dry cells of the friendly telephone test technician.

Even those were still good in series-- a couple 45 volt batteries, for the 2 tube rig of the day. (Wish I still had that BC 222 set!)

72, Stuart K5KVH

rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996

From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU

Subject: [3006] Re: QRP+

Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.960119071309.543214427B-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

On Thu, 18 Jan 1996, William R Colbert wrote:

> Unfortunately, we had high winds yesterday
> (80 kts+), same as Tim was talking about in New Mexico, and one of the
> gusts had lots of energized sand with it - so much for the mixer of the
> QRP+ - no receive, no transmit - back to Index for warranty work.
> I guess the moral to this story is if any type of storm activity is
> near - unplug and pack away. Realistic solution is to use some sort
> of protection at the antenna port.

Ray and all,

A better solution is to do a total disconnect of the rig when not in use. For all my rigs, I 1. disconnect antennas; 2. disconnect power (AC plug, not a switch, which may leave ground and one side of line connected); and 3. disconnect ground strap. Rig and accessories (wattmeter, ATU, etc.) are now isolated as if they were in the shipping box.

At first, it may seem a bunch of extra work, but after a while, it becomes routine, like filling the coffee cup, sharpening the pencil for the log, etc. And one figures out how to make all those connections accessible. Hence, it evolves into a 30-second routine. Also some secondary benefits like clean coax connector threads, etc.

Many transients that can damage sensitive circuits may be too short to need a complete path back to source.

Hope this custom grows and saves folks some repair \$ someday.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996

From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>

Subject: [3022] RE: Strange calls, etc.
Message-ID: <9601191515.AA05245@garnet.inel.gov>

I hope this does not offend anyone, but I worked a station back in the 50's with the call W5FUX -- and I have the QSL to prove it!!

72, Larry W1HUE/7

(OK, so ban me from the list...)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>
Subject: [3024] RE: Strange calls, etc.
Message-ID: <199601191536.KAA70235@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

```
>I hope this does not offend anyone, but I worked a station back in the 50's
>with the call W5FUX -- and I have the QSL to prove it!!
```

>

>72, Larry W1HUE/7

 $\succ$

```
>(OK, so ban me form the list...)
```

 $\succ$

The real question is what the picture on the card is...

My Tech/General call was N1GGR -- actually sounds kind of nice in code, and most people just took it as just another call sign but I got the riot act read to me one April first by someone who thought I was some sort of skinhead/nazi/racist pirate station.

>>>==>PStJTT

Patrick Taber	Email: ptaber@logicraft.com
Principal Software Engineer	Phone: (603) 880-0300
Logicraft Information Services	Fax: (603) 880-7229
22 Cotton Road	
Nashua N.H. 03063	Also known as: KC1TD

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 19-Jan-1996 0913" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [3017] re: Stupid Alert
Message-ID: <9601191435.AA15968@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

> this assumes that I am smart enough to have a fuse. I will from
> now on. I told you earlier today that education is expensive no
> matter how you get it. I got mine.

Don't feel too bad, Chuck. My two "stupid" episodes recently:

Our water went out recently for 3 days. While waiting to take a shower, I figured I'd bring in the dual-band mobile from my truck and use it's 800 MHz feature to listen to the Water Dept. guys. Naturally, I hooked up the gell-cell backwards. Stress of the situation, I guess. Some designer, a credit to engineering, put a big diode in there, so all I did was blow a (15 amp!) fuse. I think I'm gonna stock up on fuses.

Working on a mute circuit for my 40m receiver. Came up with a little design I thought was very simple and clever, feeling real proud of myself. Pulled out the IF module, no simple feat, and wired it in. Put back the IF module, again no simple feat, requires lots of fiddling with nuts in hard to reach places (hey, mechanical, er um, "design" comes last in my radios). Didn't work. I puzzled over that one for a half hour or so, taking measurements here and there that made no sense at all... until finally it dawned on me that I really should have used a PNP instead of the NPN I put in there... By then it was bed time... And the next day I found my my clever circuit didn't really work all that great anyway.

Other QRP stuff: I now have the above mentioned rx and it's matching tx working, 1W on 40m. Took just about a year of spare-time puttering at the soldering bench. CU ON THE AIR OM ES 73,

=====
Tom Randolph N100Q NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL randolph@est.enet.dec.com
=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Scott Cranston <cranston@zk3.dec.com>
Subject: [3010] Re: Tejas Kits sale
Message-ID: <9601191317.AA08015@falalpha.zk3.dec.com>

> Send SASE for full Winter sale flyer:
>
> Bill Kickox, KB5BDZ
> Tejas Kits
> 9215 Rowan Lane
> Houston, Tx 77036

Correction: its "Bill Hickox"

^
^
^

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [3013] Re: Tejas Kits sale
Message-ID: <960119084346_121241243@mail04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-01-19 07:37:19 EST, you write:

> "Please make all check payable to Bill Kickox."
>
> Send SASE for full Winter sale flyer:
>
> Bill Kickox, KB5BDZ
> Tejas Kits
> 9215 Rowan Lane
> Houston, Tx 77036
>
>

Correction to Spelling and Call:

Bill Hickox, K5BDZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Scott Cranston <cranston@zk3.dec.com>
Subject: [3016] Re: Tejas Kits sale
Message-ID: <9601191357.AA11242@falphi.zk3.dec.com>

Right on the heels of Chucks "Stupid Alert".... I need my own for screwing up Bill's name/call so badly.

Attached is corrected info... thanks all!

Scott

Chuck was asking what Tejas Kits has available these days. An extract from

the back cover page of the 'Winter 96' issue of Hambrew has this:

Tejas Kit Winter Sale:

- Backpacker II Reg: \$159.95 Sale: \$129.95
- Deluxe 8044ABM Mini-Keyer no enclosure Reg: \$39.95 Sale: \$29.95
with enclosure Reg: \$59.95 Sale: \$44.95
- Variable Peaking Bandpass CW Filter Kit Reg: \$49.95 Sale: \$39.95
- Mini Signal Strength Meter Assembled Reg: \$29.95 Sale: \$19.95
- Mini Meter Kit Sale: \$14.95
- Remote In-Line RF Sensor Assembled Reg: \$29.95 Sale: \$19.95

"All items limited quantities - subject to prior sale - no rain checks - all sales final."

"All prices plus shipping and handling."

"Please make all check payable to Bill Hickox."

Send SASE for full Winter sale flyer:

Bill Hickox, K5BDZ
Tejas Kits
9215 Rowan Lane
Houston, Tx 77036

And... Hambrew is a cool little magazine... \$10 per year, 303-989-5642,
or hambrew@qadas.com or <http://www.qadas.com/hambrew> or P.O. Box 260083,
Lakewood, CO 80226-0083.

I have no association with Bill Hickox or Tejas Kits or Hambrew or George
Grazio, etc, etc, just passing on information.

Scott,
KB1NW

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>
Subject: [3019] Re: Ten Tec @ 6 Meters
Message-ID: <199601191513.JAA11772@alice.adsnet.com>

At 02:49 AM 1/19/96 EST, you wrote:

>Greetings Gang...

>

Does anyone out there have any info for a 10 to 50
>watt linear for 6M?

>

>72/73

>

>dee-it dee-it

>

>

>Larry Jones N50SG <>< NorTex QRP-ARCI G-QRP MI-QRP
>4028 Random Circle NorCal NE-QRP QRP-L NTMS
>Garland Tx 75043-3250

624 Kits sells a 10 w in 100 w out amp. I think it can be driven with just
a watt or two. Price is reasonable compared to Mirage, etc.

73 de Allen, K9DZE

=====
Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@adsnet.com
Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq
ARCI G-QRP NorCal QRP-L #112
=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [3033] re: TQ1, handling letters/figures dropout
Message-ID: <v02130506ad25947e84d6@[199.170.106.28]>

Brad Mitchell, WB8YGG wrote:

I am however curious how it will hold the letter/numbers modes
with more dead space than a normal rtty signal? ... I
always hated it when the unit got in the wrong mode...

Brad, the TQ1 will could send more than one SHIFT up/down character when
changing from figs to letters and vice versa, and possibly even send them
periodically (say after every 20 normal characters) to refresh the current

mode. This makes sense for keyer-paddle input because you have plenty of extra time to burn.

On receive, if you suspect a SHIFT character was dropped, you can toggle the shift manually with a button press.

By the way, thanks to everyone for all the suggestions. I can't answer all the e-mail instantly, but I do read them all and will keep a "suggested features" list.

73,

Wayne

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [3034] re: TQ1, handling letters/figures dropout
Message-ID: <9601191854.AA23613@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

n6kr wrote:

Brad, the TQ1 will could send more than one SHIFT up/down character when changing from figs to letters and vice versa, and possibly even send them periodically (say after every 20 normal characters) to refresh the current mode. This makes sense for keyer-paddle input because you have plenty of extra time to burn.

On receive, if you suspect a SHIFT character was dropped, you can toggle the shift manually with a button press.

By the way, thanks to everyone for all the suggestions. I can't answer all the e-mail instantly, but I do read them all and will keep a "suggested features" list.

73,

Wayne

=====

Yeah, that makes sense to send redundant shift characters, but it may limit the max cw send speed.. such that Chuck cannot send without a buffer :-) Oh well, you should have plenty of

time, like you say to add the overhead, at least using the paddle input. From the keyboard, you might want to use the traditional strategy, which I always felt was a bit on the lax side. I'm sure that there is an optimal method for insuring the correct shift, but I can't tell you what it is..

You're the first to use this concept from what I can tell. Keep up the good work, and the great ideas.

Sounds like fun for sure..

73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: Steve Greene <sgreene@washsq.com>
Subject: [3027] Re: U|Q|S From TenTec?
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960119105455.28230A-1000000@mercury.washsq.com>

On Thu, 18 Jan 1996 KT3A@aol.com wrote:

> keep quiet? Did TT dump the idea? The latest kit
> catalog I have from them is A-94 when I paid a visit to
> the plant. Is there a new one out?

I don't know about a new catalog, but my Feb '96 QST arrived yesterday and Ten Tec Kits has a very nice full-page add! I'm especially interested in the 2M-6M transverter - it'll give me another use for my 2M multimode when I'm not chasing satellites.

Anyone have any experience building their 20M-6M transverter? How does it compare to other well-known kits (OHR, Heath, ...).

72 & 73
Steve Greene KA1LM
sgreene@access.digex.net
ka1lm@amsat.org

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)
Subject: [3028] Re: U|Q|S From TenTec?
Message-ID: <199601191637.JAA14887@lynx.csn.net>

I like my TenTec transverter. The kit was very good, better than OHR etc and just a bit below Heath quality. Lots of other, useful information on parts, building and 6M operation contained in the manual. I am amazed with it and 6M and plan to give it a good workout this weekend in the ARRL VHF Contest.

I drive mine with a QRP+.

72, Bob KI0G

>
QBF? ZUE

Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: kellner@usa.acsys.com (Richard G. Kellner)
Subject: [3000] Re: [2888] QRP TTY unit ("TQ1"), tentative description
Message-ID: <9601190606.AA16462@usa.acsys.com>

Wayne,

Sounds like you've come up with another innovative project, the TQ1. I don't think you'll get too many "Are you joking?" comments. I for one will buy/build one exactly as you described it.

> I'm now just about finished with the prototype of a cheap little TTY/CW
> unit (code name, "TQ1") that has a PIC, a 16x2-line LCD, a few switches,
> and a place to plug in your keyer paddle. It has an FSK data output that
> connects directly to the RIT circuit on the Sierra or '40A so you can
> actually transmit TTY (just Baudot for now).

>
.. stuff deleted

>
>
> I'll be looking for a beta tester at some point, and this could be a NorCal
> project if there's enough interest. It certainly will be a Wilderness kit
> (est price, < \$100) unless I get too many comments of the form, "CW paddle

> to send TTY? Are you joking?"
>
> Once again I'm out on a limb with no idea if anyone else wants to do this.
> Any QRP TTY specialists out there? Any suggestions? Do we need QRP AMTOR?
> (jeez, I hope not--not enough code space :)
>
>

I'd love to be a beta tester. I have a Sierra on 40/20/15, and I do operate RTTY off and on. Also have a PIC programmer for doing code changes.

> Guess I wasn't clear, Ed. The TQ1 does demodulate and display RTTY on the
> 16x2 display. That makes the TQ1 a completely self-contained RTTY unit:
> just stick it on top of your QRP rig, connect the keyer paddle, and you can
> have TTY QSOs.

With an estimated finished size of 1"H x 2"D x 3.5"W, can it be put inside the Sierra case? I imagine RFI would be one problem, but maybe a shielded enclosure mounted on the inside of the Sierra top would be a possibility. If it's mounted outside the Sierra, then configuration parameters to change the size of the LCD (bigger) would be of interest to me. Some of us old folks forget the beginning of a sentence before the end is reached, especially at the rate that some of us type. (Hi) So a 40x2 LCD would be a nice option, for example.

73,
Rich W5RXP

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [3020] Re: [2888] QRP TTY unit ("TQ1"), tentative description
Message-ID: <960119101431_121294664@emout04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-01-19 01:33:44 EST, you write:

> If it's mounted outside the Sierra, then configuration
> parameters to change the size of the LCD (bigger) would be of interest
> to me. Some of us old folks forget the beginning of a sentence before
> the end is reached, especially at the rate that some of us type. (Hi)
> So a 40x2 LCD would be a nice option, for example.
>
>

Great idea. I second this motion for optional larger displays.

Ed, N5EM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [3026] Re: [2888] QRP TTY unit ("TQ1"), tentative description
Message-ID: <9601191549.AA22342@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

This "Thing" sounds great.

I am however curious how it will hold the letter/numbers modes with more dead space than a normal rtty signal? I guess it should not be any different, but will be interesting to see. I always hated it when the unit got in the wrong mode, but then I was using my zx-80 for rtty back then..

Also, for high speed op's why not blast it back in cw :-)..

That way these high speed guys can say , hey I can copy rtty :-).

Also, would make for a cheaper unit without the display.. Hey, and then how bout .. nah never mind.!

Have fun!

73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Fri Jan 19 23:16:32 1996
From: faunt@netcom.com (Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604)
Subject: [3005] Re: [2994] Re: Getting Newcomers on exotic frequencies...
Message-ID: <199601190558.VAA25987@netcom22.netcom.com>

Date: Thu, 18 Jan 1996 18:05:51 -0800 (PST)
From: Stan Skelton <:sskelton@cln.etc.bc.ca>

So where can the RSGB book "practical transmitters for novices " be found.???
73's Stan VE7SKT (qrp-1 # 34)

>From the RSGB. Fax +44 1707 645105. They take Visa or Mastercard.
The book is \$9.53 for non-members. \$1.75 for shipping (\$3.50 for two or more books).

There's a 15% discount if you're a member of RSGB, and any order over £40. is free surface shipping. I ordered some books, by fax, around the end of November and they arrived a few days ago. The pound (£) is about US\$1.56 right now.

There are a number of other interesting books available, most notably the -G-QRP Club Antenna Handbook- at £6.99 and the -G-QRP Club Circuit Handbook- for £8.50. I just got -Test Equipment For the Radio Amateur- (£9.00) which I think is very useful and interesting.

73, Doug
(who'll be taking tests for an M license in May)